

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OP-RPA(PADOT - S.R. 1022, SECTION
003 - ULSTERBRIDGE
REPLACEMENT)05-01502-12

Comment Period: March 28, 2005 to April 28, 2005

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED AT THIS TIME.

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act as described below:

APPLICANT:

PA DOT District 3-0
715 Jordan Avenue
MONTROUSEVILLE, PA 17754-0218

LOCATION: On S.R. 1022, Section 003, over the North Branch of the Susquehanna River, in Ulster and Sheshequin Townships, Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

WORK: To discharge dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, associated with the replacement of the existing 2011 foot long, 14-span through-truss Ulster Bridge. The proposed replacement is on new alignment immediately downstream from the existing bridge. The proposed structure consists of twelve spans, each 158'7", with a total length of 1903 feet. The proposed bridge is a prestressed concrete I-beam superstructure with a reinforced concrete composite deck supported on reinforced concrete piers and abutments. The clear roadway width for the structure is thirty-four feet, which includes two 12-foot travel lanes and two 5-foot wide shoulders. Vehicle traffic will be detoured to an alternate route during construction.

A full-width causeway, with three 54-foot span bridge openings, will be used to construct the new bridge. The purpose of the full-width causeway is to provide for a shorter construction schedule and to be able to deliver the 158-foot long superstructure beams to the site. Due to existing roadway configuration, it was determined that the beams could only be delivered from the west side of the river by way of Route 220.

Once construction of the new bridge is complete, two half-width causeways will be constructed in two stages along the north side of the bridge to be demolished. In stage two, a bridge opening will be provided to span an area of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV), in lieu of temporarily filling the area.

Temporary impacts to the Susquehanna River will total 1.222 acres due to causeway construction and pier construction. Permanent impacts as a result of pier placement total 0.012 acre. Approximately 0.019 acre of temporary impacts to an unnamed tributary and 0.089 acre of temporary forested wetland impacts will occur as a result of temporary roadway construction. Once construction is complete, forested planting will occur at the areas of temporary impacts to assist in the reestablishment of the forested system. Additionally, the relocation of approximately 200 feet of one of the unnamed tributaries due to the construction of the new bridge abutment will be required. Approximately 0.002 acre of SAV will be permanently impacted by pier placement. Temporary impacts of 0.014 acre will occur to the SAV bed as a result of pier construction.

A portage will be provided through the construction area for canoe and kayak users to cross around the causeway safely. River signing for the portage will be in accordance with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's recommendations.

The applicants stated purpose is to replace an existing deteriorated structure, with narrow roadway width, and the very restrictive posted loads of 10 tons for trucks and 20 tons for combination vehicles. All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Michael Dombroskie at (814) 235-0571.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonable may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, State College, PA 16801 within the comment period specified above.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection through the issuance of a Section 105 permit or through direct application to the Regional Office in the area of the proposed project. The Section 401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year in which to make its decision.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect Federal listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

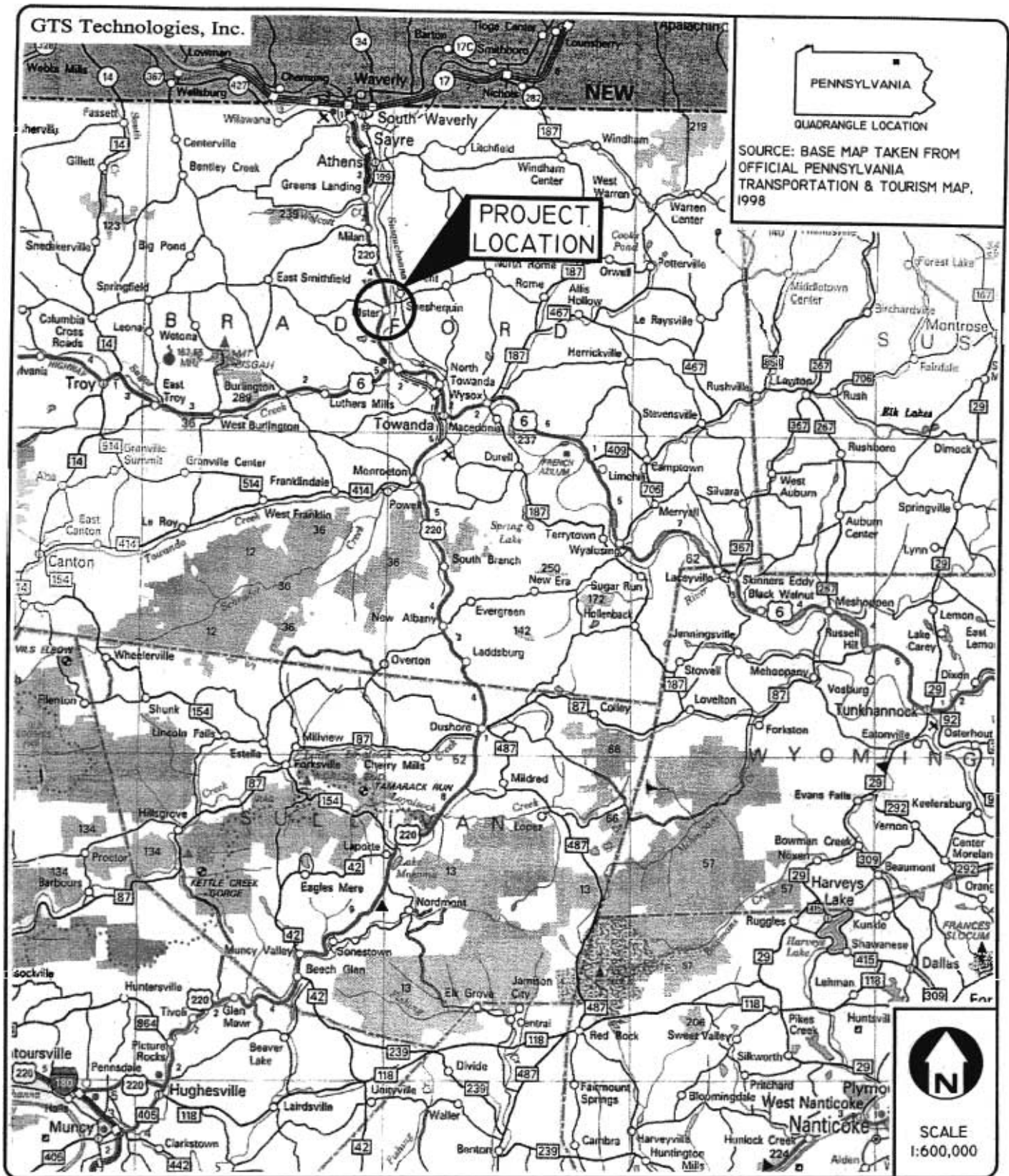
Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion, therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

The evaluation of the impact of this project on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, State College, PA 16801, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Also it must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate this information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

Enclosure



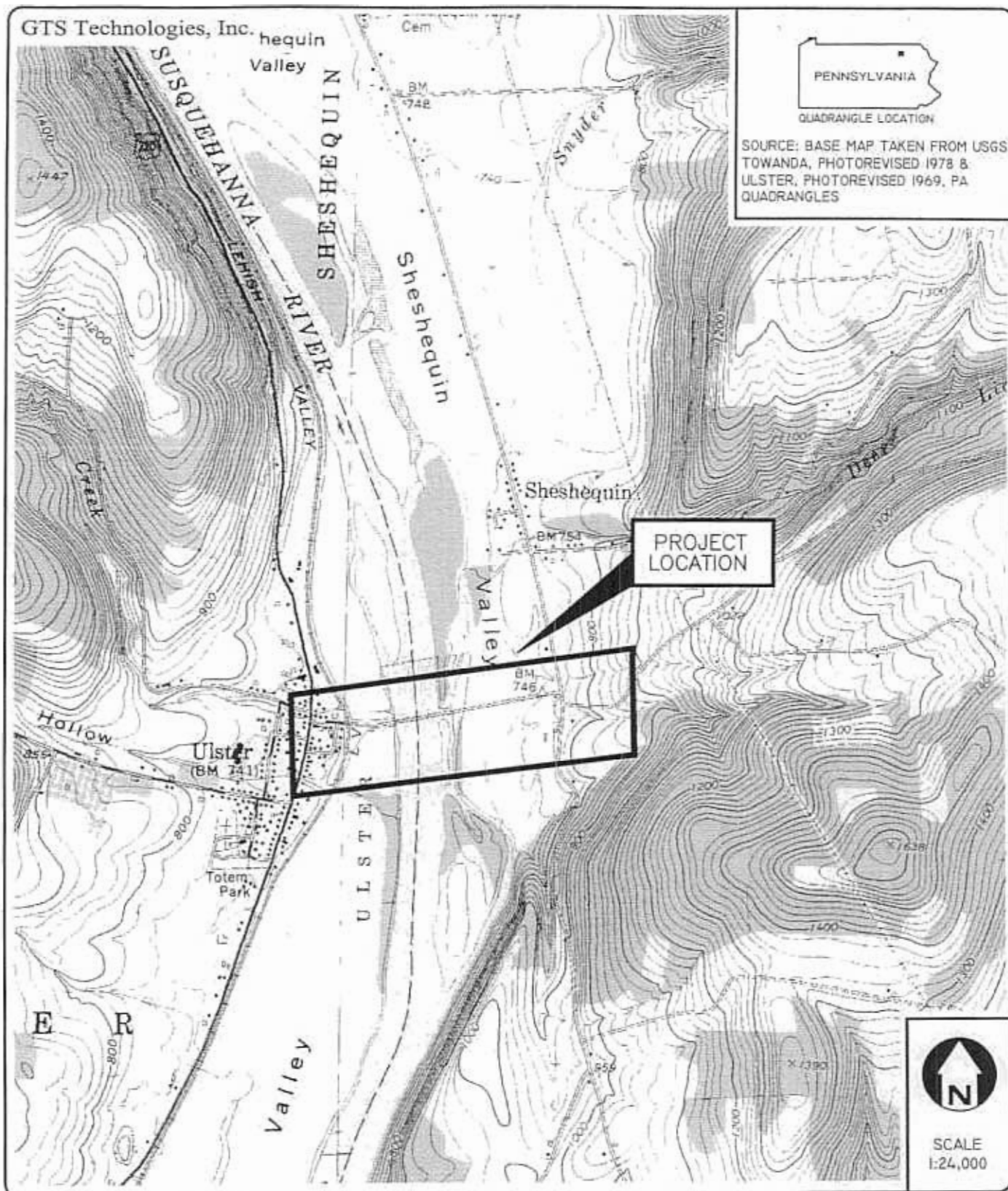
REGIONAL LOCATION MAP
 S.R. 1022, SECTION 003
ULSTER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
 ULSTER & SHESHEQUIN TOWNSHIPS
 BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

JULY 2001

FIGURE

I

DRAWING: P:\100\AREMAP.DWG
 DRAWN BY: DEC

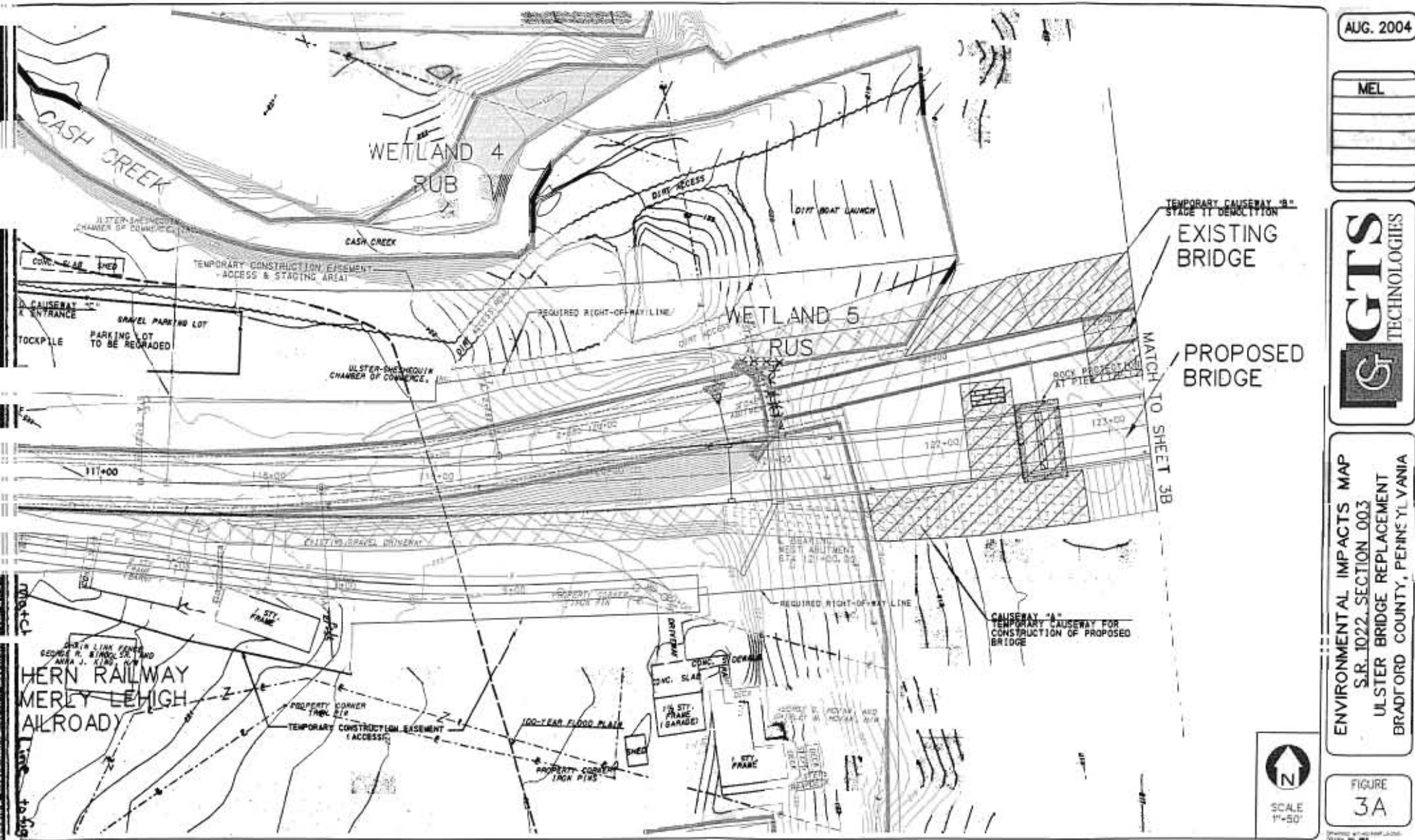


PROJECT LOCATION MAP
 S.R. 1022, SECTION 003
 ULSTER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
 ULSTER & SHESHEQUIN TOWNSHIPS
 BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

JULY 2001

FIGURE
 2

DRAWING: P116314.QUADMAP.DWG
 DRAWN BY: SES



AUG. 2004

MEL



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS MAP
S.R. 1022, SECTION 003
ULSTER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

FIGURE
3B



MATCH TO SHEET 3C

PRIME
FARMLAND
SOILS

TEMPORARY ACCESS ROAD
CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED
BRIDGE AND REMOVAL OF
EXISTING BRIDGE

WALTER R. GILLETTE, JR.

LEGAL RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE

REQUIRED RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| | PALUSTRINE EMERGENT WETLAND | | TEST PIT LOCATION |
| | PALUSTRINE SHRUB/SCRUB WETLAND | | BRIDGE PIER DISTURBANCE |
| | PALUSTRINE FORESTED WETLAND | | INVESTIGATION TRENCH |
| | SPECIAL AQUATIC VEGETATION SITE (SAV) | | BRIDGE PIER DISTURBANCE |
| | WATERS OF THE U.S. | | NO ARCHEOLOGY NEEDED |
| | WETLAND CONTINUES | | CUT LINE |
| | 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN | | FILL LINE |
| | PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LAND | | TEMPORARY CAUSEWAY "A" |
| | PRIME FARMLAND SOILS | | TEMPORARY CAUSEWAY "B" |
| | AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA | | TEMPORARY ACCESS ROAD |
| | ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES | | TEMPORARY ROAD |
| | | | PERMANENT IMPACTS |
| | | | PROTECTIVE FENCING |

REQUIRED
RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE
WALTER R. GILLETTE, JR.

WETLAND 3
PFO

Match Line to 3BII

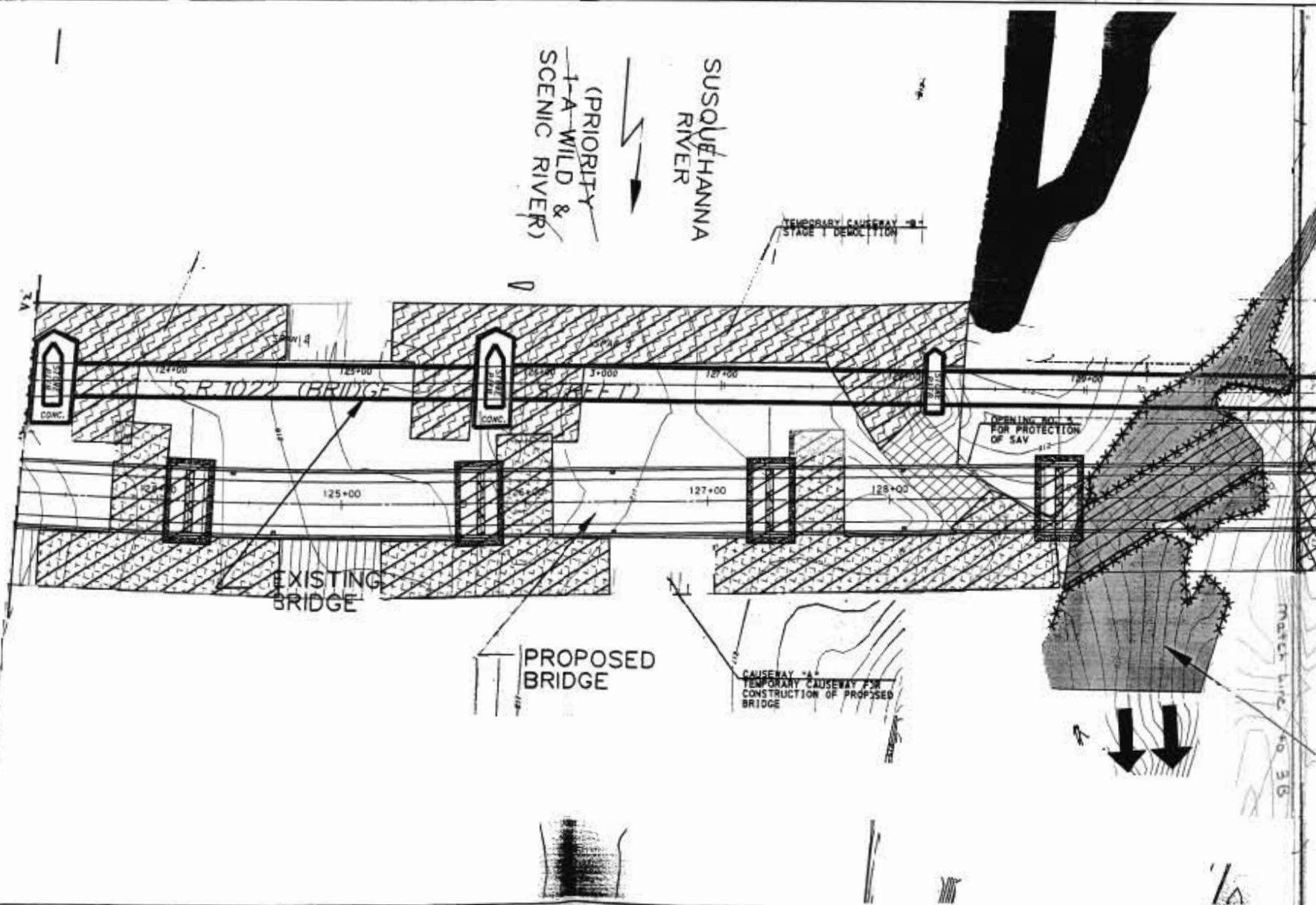
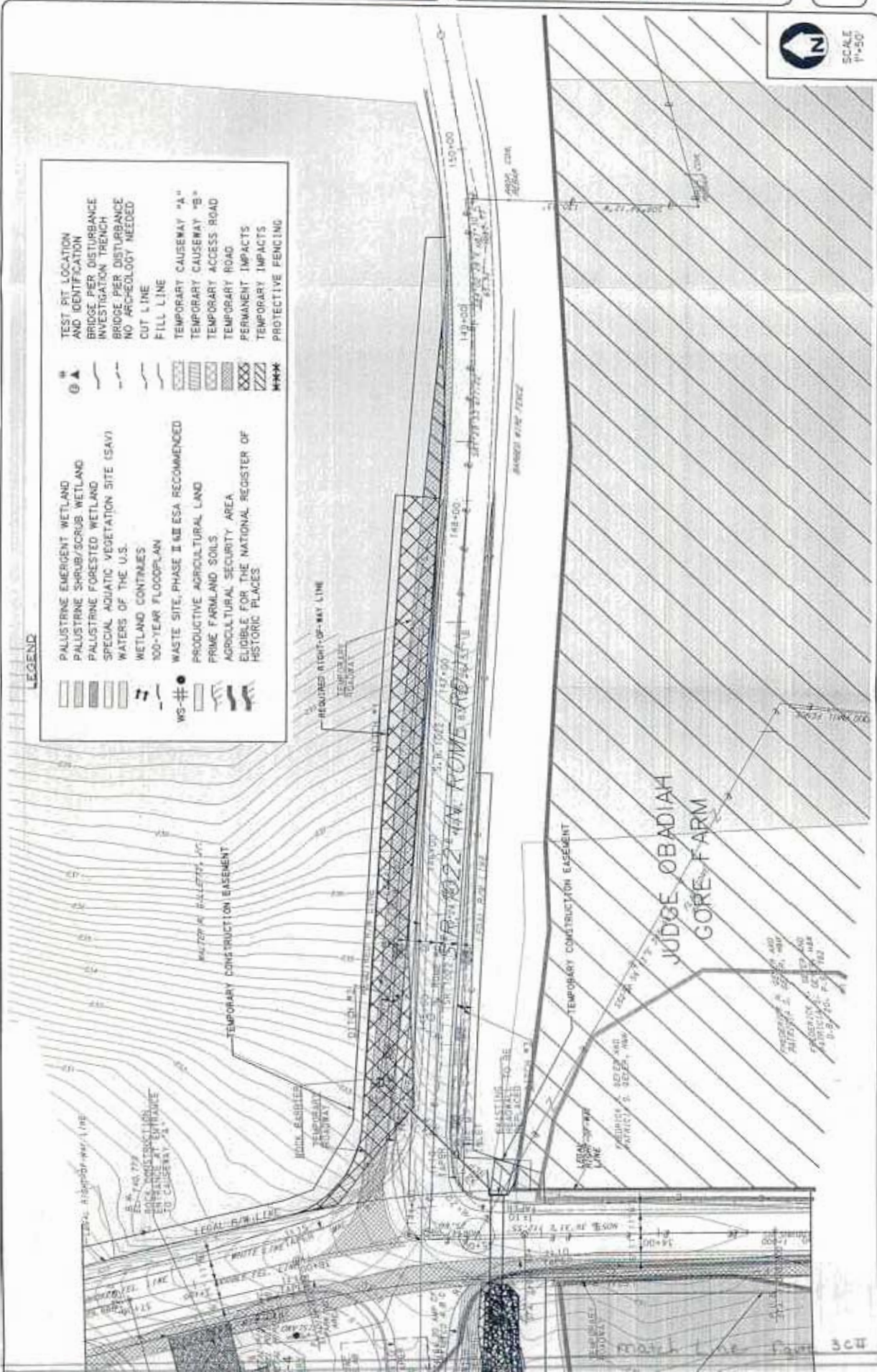


Figure 3 BII



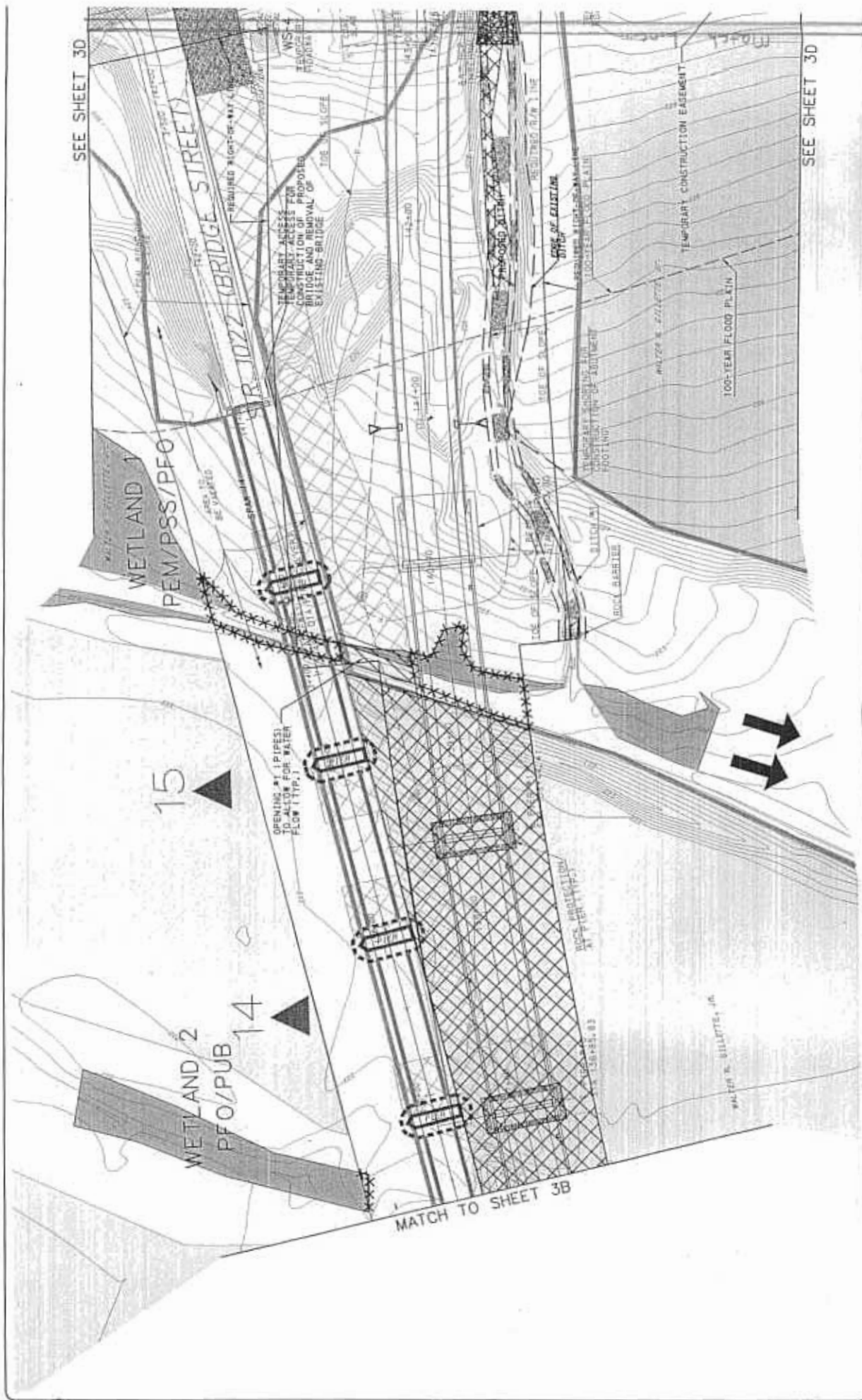


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